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EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EL324593567US

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 16842-760

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Kenneth J. Livak et al.) Group Art Unit: Unknown
)
Application No. Unassigned) Examiner: Unknown
(Continuation of USSN: 09/207,170))
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Filed: Herewith)
)
For: HYBRIDIZATION ASSAY USING SELF-)
QUENCHING FLUORESCENCE PROBE)
)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

In the specification, page 1, under the heading "Relationship to Copending Applications", please delete the entire paragraph beginning at line 17 and replace it with the following:

--This application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/207,170, filed December 7, 1998, which is a continuation of Application Serial No. 08/558,303, filed November 15, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,876,930, which is a continuation of Application Serial No. 08/340,558, filed November 16, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,538,848, each of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.--